

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 02583 01 OF 02 090454Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 EB-08 AGRE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 COME-00
/081 W

-----013161 090522Z /11

R 090222Z NOV 77
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9102W
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PEKING 2583

NOFORN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: CH PINT ECON MMOL SPOP EAGR
SUBJ: PROVINCIAL OBSERVATIONS IN KUNMING, CHENGTU, SIAN,
SHANGHAI, CANTON, OCTOBER 25 TO NOVEMBER 4

REF: PEKING 2565

1. SUMMARY. USLO OFFICER ACCOMPANYING NCUSCR DELEGATION
ON ITS PROVINCIAL TOUR SAW NO SIGN OF EXECUTION NOTICES
OBSERVED RECENTLY IN KUNMING. POLITICAL POSTER ACTIVITY
THERE WAS CONFINED TO ONE SMALL POSTER ATTACKING ATTEMPTS
AT COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY RESTORATION. IN CHENGTU, USLO
OFFICER WAS KEPT ISOLATED WITH DELEGATION HOUSED 20
MINUTES FROM THE CITY AND HAD LITTLE OPPORTUNITY TO OBSERVE
WALL POSTERS. NO POLITICAL ACTIVITY WAS APPARENT ALTHOUGH
OFFICIALS THERE ADMITTED THAT THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PEKING 02583 01 OF 02 090454Z

GANG OF FOUR INFLUENCE WAS SALL GOING ON. SIAN STOP-
OVER LASTED LESS THAN ONE DAY AND NO SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL
ACTIVITY WAS OBSERVED. IN SHANGHAI, LOCAL OFFICIALS
STILL GAVE EMPHASIS TO THE CRIMES OF THE GANG
OF FOUR IN SHANGHAI AND POSTER ACTIVITY WAS AT A
MINIMUM WITH ONLY ONE POSTER OBSERVED ATTACKING A LOCAL
OFFICIAL. IN CANTON, NOTICES WERE SEEN REQUESTING

INDIVIDUALS NOT TO PUT UP WALL POSTERS. END SUMMARY.

2. KUNMING, OCTOBER 25-27. LANDING AT KUNMING AIR-PORT, USLO OFFICER SAW 50-60 MIG-19'S, MOST OF WHICH WERE COVERED BY CANVAS. THOSE UNCOVERED HAD NO VISIBLE MARKINGS. DURING THE TWO DAY STAY IN KUNMING, USLO OFFICER OBSERVED MANY BROKEN WINDOWS IN LOCAL APARTMENT BUILDINGS AND SEVERAL OF THESE BUILDINGS APPEARED TO BE UNOCCUPIED. LOCAL GUIDES REMARKED THAT THIS WAS DUE TO THE VIOLENCE AND SABOTAGE OF LOCAL GANG OF FOUR ELEMENTS. IN ADDITION, PRODUCTION AT THE LOCAL GLASS FACTORY HAD BEEN DISRUPTED AND WAS STILL NOT ADEQUATE TO MEET LOCAL DEMAND. ONE YUNNAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE CADRE TOLD USLO OFFICER THAT EVEN THOUGH LOCAL GANG OF FOUR ELEMENTS HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED, YUNNAN "STILL HAS CLASS STRUGGLE." THE ONLY WALL POSTER OBSERVED IN KUNMING BORE THIS OUT AND CALLED FOR "RESOLUTELY STRIKING DOWN COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ATTEMPTS AT RESTORATION AND CAPITALIST TENDENCIES." HOWEVER, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KUNMING MACHINE TOOL FACTORY STATED THAT NONE OF THE FACTORY'S 21 REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND NONE OF THE 23 PARTY COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE REMOVED IN THE PAST YEAR DESPITE SEVERE GANG OF FOUR DISRUPTION IN THE FACTORY. ANOTHER LOCAL OFFICIAL REMARKED TO A DELEGATION MEMBER THAT THE LOCAL PEOPLE HAD BEEN BOMBARDED BY POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS AND HIS TENOR INDICATED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PEKING 02583 01 OF 02 090454Z

THAT MANY WERE NOW GLAD OF THE PROSPECT FOR LESS DISRUPTIVE POLITICAL MOVEMENTS. THE LIMITED RELAXATION IN THE ARTS WAS OBSERVED DURING A PERFORMANCE BY A LOCAL PERFORMING ARTS TROUPE. SEVERAL SONGS (INCLUDING "SOCIALISM IS FINE") AND TRADITIONAL SKITS FORBIDDEN FOR TWENTY YEARS WERE PERFORMED AND ELICITED GASPS FROM THE CHINESE AUDIENCE.

3. YUNNAN REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMAN LI CHI-MING (RECENTLY TRANSFERRED FROM TAI YUAN, A NATIVE OF SHANSI AND IN HIS FORTIES), GAVE THE DELEGATION A BRIEFING AND SAID THAT YUNNAN'S INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT WAS NOW 30 PERCENT ABOVE THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. HE SAID THAT AGRICULTURE HAS MADE "BIG PROGRESS" BUT EMPHASIZED THE UNPRECEDENTED DROUGHT WHICH HAD RESULTED IN SOME

LATE CROPS BEING PLANTED UP TO FOUR TIMES. PROVINCIAL INCOME FROM INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT IS EVENLY MIXED AND IN 1976 THE PROVINCE WAS ALLOWED TO KEEP 30 PERCENT OF ITS EXCESS REVENUES FOR LOCAL INVESTMENT. LOCAL OFFICIALS STILL MAINTAINED THAT YUNNAN'S POPULATION IS 28 MILLION WITH 1,800,000 IN

KUNMING MUNICIPALITY. USLO OFFICER OBSERVED THAT LISTLESS YOUTH WERE WANDERING THE CITY STREETS AT NIGHT, PEOPLE GENERALLY WORE PATCHED CLOTHING, AND LOCAL GUIDES INSISTED ON ACCOMPANYING DELEGATION MEMBERS ON WALKS THROUGHOUT THE CITY. DESPITE RECENT STATEMENTS BY MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIALS IN PEKING, KUNMING CITY OFFICIALS MAINTAIN THAT KUNMING IS NOW AN "OPEN CITY" AND FOREIGNERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED FREE ACCESS TO THE CITY FOR SOME TIME TO COME.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 02583 02 OF 02 090507Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 EB-08 AGRE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 COME-00
/081 W

-----013266 090521Z /11

R 090222Z NOV 77
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9103E
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PEKING 2583

NOFORN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

4. CHENGTU, OCTOBER 27-30. USLO OFFICER WAS KEPT ISOLATED ALONG WITH NATIONAL COMMITTEE DELEGATION WITH CASUAL WALKS THROUGH THE CITY NOT PERMITTED. PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL OFFICIALS STATED THAT SZECHUAN'S POPULATION IS APPROXIMATELY 90 MILLION AND COMPRISES 10 PERCENT OF CHINA'S TOTAL. LIKEWISE, SZECHUAN'S AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTIN IS 10 PERCENT OF NATIONAL LEVELS. THE OFFICIALS MAINTAINED THERE WILL BE A BUMPER HARVEST IN ALL CROPS AND A RECORD YIELD IN GRAIN IS EXPECTED. THE HARVEST WAS JUST COMPLETED AND SEEDING WAS UNDER WAY FOR THE SPRING CROP. INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION TARGETS WERE FULFILLED ONE AND A HALF MONTHS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE. LOCAL OFFICIALS WERE QUITE

EXPLICIT ON BIRTH RATES IN SZECHUAN. THE CURRENT GROWTH RATE FOR THE PROVINCE IS 1.1 PERCENT AND THE TARGET IS BETWEEN .6 AND .8 PERCENT. OFFICIALS SAID
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PEKING 02583 02 OF 02 090507Z

THAT ALTHOUGH THERE IS STILL A LARGE PROBLEM IN THE COUNTRYSIDE WITH MANY STILL WANTING LARGE FAMILIES, IN THE CITIES THE TARGET OF 6 PER THOUSAND HAS ALREADY BEEN ACHIEVED. NEVERTHELESS, USLO OFFICER WAS STRUCK BY THE LARGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN CHENG TU AND THE SURROUNDING COUNTRYSIDE. IN GENERAL, PEOPLE WERE POORLY CLOTHED AND THERE WAS LITTLE EVIDENCE OF NEW CONSTRUCTION IN THE CITY. DESPITE THE LUSH COUNTRYSIDE, CHENG TU APPEARED TO SUFFER FROM ECONOMIC SUPPLY PROBLEMS. ONE INTERESTING NOTE: MOST OF CHENG TU'S BUSES ARE RUN ON NATURAL GAS BUT A SIZABLE PROPORTION OF THE SUBURBAN FARM POPULATION DOES ITS HOUSEHOLD COOKING ON METHANE GAS PRODUCED FROM INDIVIDUAL NIGHTSOIL PITS. LOCAL GUIDES STATED THAT PLANS WERE UNDER WAY TO EXPAND THE METHANE PITS SINCE THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY IN TRANSPORTING SZECHUAN'S NATURAL GAS TO CONSUMERS EVEN WITHIN THE PROVINCE.

5. GANG OF FOUR INTERFERENCE IN LOCAL POLITICS WAS MOST CLEARLY AND DRAMATICALLY REVEALED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ARROW BRIDGE COMMUNE, JUST OUTSIDE OF CHENG TU. WITHIN THE COMMUNE, THE GANG OF FOUR PROBLEM WAS MOST SERIOUS FROM JULY TO SEPTEMBER 1976. DURING THAT PERIOD SEVERAL PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNE ENGAGED IN BOURGEOIS FACTIONAL ACTIVITIES AND ATTEMPTED TO SEIZE POWER IN THE COMMUNE. THEY ATTACKED ALL THE COMMUNE LEADERS, INCLUDING THE CHAIRMAN. THEY DEMANDED ADMITTANCE INTO THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE AND WANTED OTHER HIGH POSTS. THESE GANG OF FOUR ELEMENTS ORGANIZED STUDY CLASSES TO REMOLD THE IDEOLOGY OF THE COMMUNE LEADERS. PRODUCTION WAS SERIOUSLY EFFECTED. SINCE THE LEADERS WRE IN THE CLASSES FOR ONE MONTH, THE SOWING OF LATE RICE WAS POSTPONED FOR ONE MONTH. PER HECTARE YIELD WAS 1125
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PEKING 02583 02 OF 02 090507Z

KILOGRAMS BELOW THE PREVIOUS YEAR DESPITE IDENTICAL WEATHER CONDITIONS.

6. SIAN, OCTOBER 30-31. STOPOVER IN SIAN WAS LESS THAN ONE DAY AND DID NOT ALLOW FOR INFORMATIVE VISITS TO LOCAL COMMUNES FOR FACTORIES. DELEGATION SAW ONLY

HISTORICAL SIGHTS. BRIEF CONVERSATIONS WITH LOCAL
GUIDES REVEALED NOTHING OF VALUE.

7. SHANGHAI OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 2. DURING BRIEF
STOPOVER IN CHENGCHOU DURING SIAN-SHANGHAI FLIGHT,
USLO OFFICER OBSERVED 20-30 MIG-17 AIRCRAFT. THE AIR-
CRAFT BEGAN TAKING OFF IN PAIRS AND WERE DISPERSED BY
THE TIME THE CAAC FLIGHT TO SHANGHAI RESUMED. IN
SHANGHAI, LOCAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE OFFICIALS STATED
THAT SHANGHAI'S MUNICIPAL POPULATION WAS NOW 10.8
MILLION WITH 5.6 MILLION LIVING WITHIN THE CITY ITSELF.
THE DELEGATION WAS GIVEN A THREE HOUR EVENING SESSION
WITH TWO OFFICIALS OF THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT OF THE
SHANGHAI REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE (SUBSTANCE IN SEP
MESSAGE). THEY CONFIRMED THAT THE CAMPAIGN IN SHANGHAI
AGAINST GANG OF FOUR ELEMENTS WAS STILL CONTINUING AND
A SERIOUS EFFORT WAS UNDER WAY TO CONSOLIDATE
LEADING BODIES AND THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATE GANG OF FOUR
FOLLOWERS AND THEIR CONSPIRATORIAL ACTIVITIES. EACH
WILL BE HANDLED ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS BUT A SMALL
NUMBER WILL SUFFER SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES: DISMISSAL FROM
ALL POSTS AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY. POSTER ACTIVITY WAS
AT A MINIMUM, ALTHOUGH ONE DELEGATION MEMBER SAW A
POSTER ATTACKING TS'AO (?) FU-CHOU (2580/4395/0719),
PRESUMABLY A LOCAL OFFICIAL. DELEGATION MEMBERS WERE
STRUCK BY THE SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER STANDARD OF LIVING,
QUALITY OF PRODUCTS, AND LEVEL OF TECHNOLOGY IN SHANGHAI
AS COMPARED TO THE INTERIOR.

8. CANTON. NOVEMBER 2-4: NO WALL POSTERS WERE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 PEKING 02583 02 OF 02 090507Z

OBSERVED IN CANTON ALTHOUGH USLO OFFICER DID SEE A
NOTICE ASKING PEOPLE NOT TO POST WALL POSTERS,
PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF THE CANTON TRADE FAIR.
WOODCOCK

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TRAVEL REPORTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PEKING02583
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770413-0641
Format: TEL
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771178/aaaacpax.tel
Line Count: 264
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 76432f1e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PEKING 2565
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 654481
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROVINCIAL OBSERVATIONS IN KUNMING, CHENG TU, SIAN, SHANGHAI, CANTON, OCTOBER 25 TO NOVEMBER 4
TAGS: PINT, ECON, MMOL, SPOP, EAGR, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/76432f1e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009